

Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/561,673	ITO ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Sheeba Ahmed	1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

- 1. This communication is responsive to 10/1/07.
- 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,6,7,9-12 and 14-21.
- 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

- 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 - 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9. Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9-1, 14-1 are allowed.

Applicants arguments with respect to the rejection of claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement and the rejection of claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Hence, the above-mentioned rejections have been withdrawn.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 1 recites an object comprising a plurality of cured resin layers accumulated one on top of the other wherein at least one cured resin layer comprises a blend of two polymers having a sea-island microstructure in which island components are dispersed in a sea component and wherein the island components are fine island components having a particle diameter of 20 to 2,000 nm, and the polymer constituting the island components is a polyalkylene ether compound having a number average molecular weight of 500 to 10,000. Independent claim 17, on the other hand, recites an object comprising a plurality of cured resin layers accumulated one on top of the other wherein at least one cured resin layer comprises a blend of two polymers having a sea-island microstructure in which island components are dispersed in a sea component and wherein the island components, in each of the cured resin layers having the sea-island microstructure, do not exist in an upper portion of each of the cured resin layers

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but the island components do exist in a portion extending from a bottom part of each of the cured resin layers to an upward part along the thickness of each of the cured resin layers.

The closest prior art, Yamamura et al. (US 2003/0059708) fails to disclose or render obvious an object comprising at least one cured resin layer comprises a blend of two polymers having a sea-island microstructure in which island components are dispersed in a sea component and wherein the island components are fine island components having a particle diameter of 20 to 2,000 nm, and the polymer constituting the island components is a polyalkylene ether compound having a number average molecular weight of 500 to 10,000 or an object comprising at least one cured resin layer wherein the upper portion of the cured resin layers having the sea-island microstructure does not contain any island components but does contain island components in a portion extending from a bottom part of each of the cured resin layers to an upward part along the thickness of each of the cured resin layers.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sheeba Ahmed whose telephone number is (571)272-1504. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on (571)272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Sheeba Ahmed
Art Unit 1773
October 18, 2007